(c) The handling and clearing work for sugar imported by STC is done through Indian Sugar and General Industry Export Import Corporation Limited (ISIEC). In addition to the actual handling, clearing expenses, and port charges etc. annual overheads of ISIEC are also met. The amount paid to ISIEC as handling, clearing, port charges etc. per tonne for it's overheads during the last three years is given below:—

Financial Year	Handling, clearing port charges, overheads etc. (Rs./MT)
1984-85	131.18
1985-86	119.86
1986-87 (Provisional)	140.00

(d) The sugar imported by STC is delivered to the Food Corporation of India/State Governments on ex-jetty and ex-STC's godowns, as per the instructions of the Government from time to time. The marine, transit, handling and storage shortages during the last three years are given below:—

Financial Year	Total quantity imported (lakh/MT)	Shortages	
		Qty. (MT)	%Loss
1984-85	4.96	1342	0.27
1985-86	20.33	6664	0.33

The figures for the financial year 1986-87 are under compilation.

The consignments of sugar imported are covered against all risks from warehouse of the seller to STC's warehouse at discharge port in India. Further, stocks of sugar are also insured. As such, almost entire shortages are recoverable from the insurers.

(e) Complaints of malpractices received against officials of State Trading Corporation are enquired into and follow-up action is taken based on the findings of the enquiry.

Introduction of Vayudoot Flights over Himalayas in order to boost Tourism

*272. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry in collaboration with Vayudoot have arranged flights over the Himalayas for the promotion of tourism;

(b) if so, what is the response to this new venture;

(c) whether there have been complaints from the tourists about the non-compliance of flight safety measures; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The flight has proved to be very successful and is operating at approximately 90 per cent of the occupancy.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Communal disturbances in Meerut

*273. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has visited or has sent a team of officers to Meerut in connection with the communal disturbances there in the recent past;

(b) if so, what is his or the team's assessment in this regard;

(c) how many persons have been killed and injured in the communal disturbances;

(d) how many persons have been taken into custody in this connection and how many of them have since been released; and

(e) whether the Union Government have given any advice to the State Governments to check the incidents of communal violence and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) and (b) The Home Minister visited the riot affected areas of Meerut on 19th April, 1987. Similarly, ever since the occurrence of communal violence in Meerut on the evening of 14th April, 1987, the Central authorities remained in constant touch with the State authorities.

The communal incidents in Meerut were the handiwork of anti-social and communal elements.

(c) According to the information furnished by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, 10 persons were killed and 23 injured in the recent communal disturbances at Meerut.

(d) A total of 609 persons had been arrested in connection with the recent communal incidents at Meerut till 25th April, 1987. The release of arrested persons would be in accordance with the provisions of the various laws.

(e) The Central Government remains continuously in touch with the State Governments with a view to preventing and controlling communal riots as also for providing such help and assistance as is required by the concerned State Governments. It would be recalled that in July, 1985, comprehensive guidelines for promotion of communal harmony and preventing communal riots were reviewed, revised and re-circulated to all the State Governments/UTs. The Home Minister in particular addressed all the State Governments/UTs in October, 1986, emphasising direct responsibility of the District's Civil and Police officials in maintaining communal harmony. Again on 30th December, 1986 the State Governments/Uts were issued instructions on how to control and regulate religious processions.

Export of tea and rice

*274. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the exports in quantity and value of tea and rice to each country in the years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87;